

Winchester and District Canoe Club Risk Assessment



Date:	30/06/2025
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Assessors Name:	Mike Creagh	Review Date:	01/07/26
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Description of assessment	General Paddle sports activity at Winchester and District Canoe Club North Walls Site Winchester Only.
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Location Details	Devil's Island – North Walls Park, Winchester. <u>What Three Words Location loses.cared.plotter</u> 
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What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing to control the risks?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?
Lifting and carrying kayaks, canoes and kit	All Risk of back or other muscular skeletal injury	As part of the induction all members are taught, the correct manual lifting techniques of lifting, carrying kayaks, canoes and paddle boards.	Members encouraged to carry kayaks, canoes and paddle boards with another person. Some open canoes are heavy; therefore, four people are recommended to lift, carry open canoes	Coaches, and All members.	On going
Drowning	All Risk of serious / fatal injury through immersion.	Non-Coached Sessions All members to wear correctly fitting Personal Floatation Device when near and on the water. Members using club equipment sign to say that they have carried out visual checks on all club equipment before getting on the water.	Six Monthly Visual Inspection of all club owned Personal Floatation Device, as per manufacturers guidance.	Winchester and District Canoe Club Safety Officer to organise and ensure all checks are carried out in line with the manufacturer's guidelines. All findings are recorded in the Equipment Folder held at Winchester and District Canoe Club and stored electronically.	Six Monthly and Yearly
Drowning	All Risk of serious / fatal injury through immersion.	Coached Sessions All participants to wear correctly fitting Personal Floatation Device when near and on the water. Club coach or competent person to ensure that all Personal Floatation Devices are safe to use and correctly fitted.	Club coach or competent person to carry out checks as part of the induction process and then sign, the dynamic risk assessment to confirm that checks have been carried out. Six Monthly Visual Inspection of all club owned Personal Floatation Device, as per manufacturers guidance.	Winchester and District Canoe Club Safety Officer to organise and ensure all checks are carried out, in line with the manufacturer's guidelines. All findings are recorded in the Equipment Folder held at Winchester and District Canoe Club and stored electronically.	Six Monthly and Yearly
Equipment Failure	All Risk of serious / fatal injury through entrapment of kayak, or open canoe.	Non-Coached Sessions. All members are responsible for carrying out equipment checks on Kayaks, Open Canoes and Paddle before use. Members to report damages or kit failures in equipment failures log and to place equipment in the marked equipment quarantine rack and place a defect label on them.	Club management of asset list and knowledge of condition and replacement timelines. Mark and remove unsafe equipment from use and appropriate safe disposal Regular and appropriate equipment checks Members to report damages or kit failures via the Equipment Folder in the club house immediately	Winchester and District Canoe Club Safety Officer to organise and ensure all equipment either is repaired or disposed of. All repairs to be recorded.	As and when required. Yearly checks to be carried out.

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Equipment Failure	All Risk of serious / fatal injury through entrapment of kayak, or open canoe.	Coached Sessions. Coaches are responsible for carrying out equipment checks on Kayaks, Open Canoes and Paddle before use. Coaches to report damages or kit failures in equipment failures log and to place equipment in the marked equipment quarantine rack and place a defect label on them.	Club management of asset list and knowledge of condition and replacement timelines. Mark and remove unsafe equipment from use and appropriate safe disposal Regular and appropriate equipment checks Members to report damages or kit failures via the Equipment Folder in the club house immediately	Winchester and District Canoe Club Safety Officer to organise and ensure all equipments either repaired or disposed of. All repairs to be recorded.	As and when required. Yearly checks to be carried out.
Paddling Sport Activities	All Capsize, potential risk of entrapment injury or drowning	Discovery award, teaching capsizing drill before joining the club. Competent paddlers present. Members, unless authorised by Winchester and District Canoe Club, must be in a group of 3.	Members encouraged to learn rescue techniques	Winchester and District Club Coaches and All members	Ongoing
Head Injury	All Risk of concussion or potential of series head injury.	Correctly fitting CE approved paddle sports helmets to worn when carrying out capsizing drills or rescue techniques.	During coached sessions coach to check that participant's helmets are correctly fitting. Club management Six monthly and yearly checks to be carried out, any helmets which are demand by club coach or member not fit for use reported via the Equipment Folder in the club house immediately to be taken out of service immediately also tagged and put in quarantine area.	Winchester and District Club Coaches and All members	Ongoing
Overhanging branches, wooden bank protectors	All Risk of injury or capsizing, or entrapment of person or watercraft.	Downed tree or other obstructions present a safety hazard for paddlers and should be treated with extreme caution with special care to avoid damaging eyes.	Keep clear of fallen trees and obstruction Do not paddle upstream of obstruction	Club Members to report back to club safety officer of any concerns	Ongoing

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Hypothermia / Hyperthermia	All	Participants to wear clothing appropriate to the weather on the day.	Ensure paddlers wear appropriate clothing for conditions Special attention should be taken after immersion Advice given to ensuring adequate fluids are drunk. Wearing a hat is recommended Sun screen is recommended.	Members and Club Coaches	Ongoing
Pre-existing medical conditions	1. Asthma 2. Epilepsy 3. Diabetes 4. Heart condition	Coached Sessions 1-4a. Medical info forms completed and shown to the coach. 1-4b. Inhaler /Medication available on person and coach aware of location and use. 1-4c. All Paddle UK coaches should hold first aid certificate. 1-4d. All members with preexisting medical conditions should check with their own Doctors that they are healthy/fit enough to meet the demands of paddlesport prior to commencement of activities.		Member and Club Coaches	Ongoing
Wildlife	All Injury from bites or aggressive behaviour.	Increased capsized risk for inexperienced paddlers	Keep clear of aggressive swans Take evasive action Paddles as a group	Members	Ongoing

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Cuts and	Cuts and/or grazes to feet from objects on riverbed or shore. Broken glass or sharps in the grassed area.	Cuts from objects on riverbed or shore. Broken glass or sharps in the grassed area. Appropriate footwear to be worn.	Area to be checked by keyholder opening for members. Do not pick up any sharps, just cordon area off.	Responsible person opening	Ongoing
Shallow areas of deep mud	All Trapped in deep mud.	As part of the induction process new members are warned of areas, in the river where deep mud poses a danger of entrapment should a paddler either in a kayak open canoe or paddle board capsizes.	Additional reminders in club hut and any dangers will be highlighted at club house.	To be reviewed by Club Committee six monthly.	Ongoing
Weather Conditions	All Hypothermia / Hyperthermia	Participants to wear clothing appropriate to the weather on the day.		Club Coaches, Members	Ongoing
Water borne illness	All Risk of contracting Weill's disease or other water borne illness	Avoid ingesting water. Wash hands immediately after paddling -hand gel available in club Ensure cuts and abrasions are covered	Hand gel available in club Ensure cuts and abrasions are covered	Members	Ongoing

Written By Name N. G. Cooper Signature M. Cal Date 3.2.16 Position Chairman

Reviewed By Name DANIEL MARRAS Signature D. MARRAS Date 4.1.17 Position Coach